

THE STORY OF REDEMPTION: EXODUS 23:10-33

1. Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. To be ready for a year without crops the Israelites would have to budget and save for the fallow year. In today's culture, where production never stops, is budgeting still needed?
3. Verse 12 tells that even the nonbelievers should observe a Sabbath rest. Should we as Christians not go out to eat, go shopping, etc. on Sundays to allow others a chance to have a day of rest?
4. Verse 13 forbids even speaking the name of other gods. What danger is in those names, that they should be forbidden?
5. Verses 14-17 tell of festivals of celebratory worship. What can we do today if our worship feels more like a bore than a celebration?
6. Verse 16 commands that we give to God from our first fruits, not from the leftovers. What "first fruits" do you have in your life, and how can you offer those as an act of worship?
7. Besides verse 20, try to find at least 3 places where Jesus appears in the Old Testament (such as in Genesis 32:24-32).
8. How would you respond to an accusation that Christians today are hypocrites because they do not follow the things commanded of them in passages like this, and thus have no right to tell anyone how to live their life?